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SENATE  
P.S. Res. No. 1348

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Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SINKING OF ABOITIZ TRANSPORT SYSTEM'S SUPERFERRY 9 AND OTHER MARITIME ACCIDENTS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRENGTHENING MARITIME SAFETY REGULATIONS AND REVIEWING CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES CAPABILITY TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO SUCH INCIDENTS**

**Whereas**, on 6 September 2009, Superferry 9, owned and operated by Aboitiz Transport System, capsized off the coast of Zamboanga Peninsula with 847 passengers, a crew of 117 and four sea marshals;

**Whereas**, as a result of the incident, 9 fatalities and 966 people on board have been rescued, according to an update from the Coast Guard officials as of 5:00 a.m. of 7 September 2009;

**Whereas**, the following day, a Panamanian-registered cargo vessel sank off Eastern Samar, carrying 19 crews – 15 Filipinos and 4 Koreans, after it had taken in water after its engine developed mechanical problems;

**Whereas**, it was discovered and reported that Superferry 9 was carrying 200,000 liters of industrial fuel oil, 80,000 liters automotive diesel oil and 10,000 liters of lube oil thereby prompting the Philippine Coast Guard to send vessel BRP Corregidor for oil spill response operations if necessary;

**Whereas**, it may be disputed that the Philippine Coast Guard does not have the competence nor the facilities to manage oil spill response operations; and

**Whereas**, an inquiry into the incident is needed to determine reforms to the maritime industry, to strengthen safety regulations and plug loopholes in existing laws.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate Committee On Public Services and other appropriate Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the sinking of Aboitiz Transport System's Superferry 9 and other maritime accidents, with the end in view of strengthening Maritime safety regulations and reviewing government agencies capability to prevent and respond to such incidents.

Adopted,

  
RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.